



# Maryland Agriculture Data

## Weekly Crop and Weather Report



MD-CW2901

October 15, 2001

### Excellent Week for Fieldwork

With the exception of a few showers on Sunday, last week was predominately dry across the state, allowing Maryland farmers an average of 6.4 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Because of these conditions, last week was an excellent week for activities such as harvesting row crops and seeding small grains. Precipitation for October ranges from 0.5 inches in Washington County to 1.3 inches in Wicomico County. In regards to temperature, reports of frost last week has raised some concern, especially for late planted soybeans.

**Corn harvested for grain** has passed the halfway mark of completion with 67 percent harvested, progressing 20 percent from the previous week, 15 percent ahead of last year, and 11 percent ahead of the five year average. While corn harvest continues ahead of schedule, a slowdown is expected due to delays at the grain elevators. As a result, many farmers are turning their focus onto harvesting soybeans, which are also well ahead of schedule. **Soybean harvest** is 28 percent complete, progressing 14 percent over the previous week, 13 percent ahead of last year, and 11 percent ahead of the five year average.

Small grain seedings are well underway. Sixty-seven percent of the **barley** crop is planted, 13 percent ahead of last year, and 11 percent of the five year average. **Winter wheat** planting is 22 percent complete, 3 percent ahead of last year and 2 percent ahead of the average. **Rye** is 47 percent planted, 18 percent ahead of last year and 12 percent ahead of the average.

Topsoil and Subsoil moisture levels decreased due to the dry weather. Consequently topsoil rated in adequate supply decreased by 17 percent from the previous week. Subsoil in adequate moisture supply decreased by 20 percent from the previous week. **Topsoil moisture** is rated surplus, 57 percent adequate, 39 percent short, and 4 percent very short. **Subsoil moisture** is 47 percent adequate, 46 percent short, and 7 percent very short.

### MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 14, 2001 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1996-2000
Harvesting Progress:				
Apples	83	59	81	72
Corn, for grain	67	47	52	56
Corn, for silage	98	88	93	94
Sorghum	50	42	39	31
Soybeans	28	14	15	17
Crop Progress:				
Soybeans, dropping leaves	84	56	62	70
Tobacco, stripped	9	1	7	4
Small Grain Seeding:				
Barley	67	37	54	56
Winter Wheat	22	9	19	20
Rye	47	26	29	35
Hay Harvested:				
Other hay, 4 <sup>th</sup> cutting	88	82	73	76
Alfalfa, 4 <sup>th</sup> cutting	92	83	89	83
Alfalfa, 5 <sup>th</sup> cutting	58	55	40	33

### CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 14, 2001 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Barley	0	7	47	42	4
Winter Wheat	1	1	26	68	4
Rye	0	4	34	52	10
Pasture	2	18	46	29	5

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